

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Alabama Department of Public Safety

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### **TROOPERS URGE TEENS, ALL MOTORISTS TO BUCKLE UP, DRIVE SAFELY DURING SPRING BREAK**

MONTGOMERY — Alabama state troopers encourage teens and all motorists to keep safety in mind when they take to the roadways during spring break. To help ensure safe travel, state troopers will concentrate patrols on popular beach routes and other high-traffic areas during the period, according to Public Safety Director Col. W.M. Coppage.

At checkpoints and during saturation and routine patrols, troopers will focus on enforcement of Alabama's safety belt law, impaired driving laws, speed limits and all other traffic laws.

Coppage said young drivers especially should remember to practice courtesy toward other motorists and to drive defensively. "Keep your focus on driving safely, buckling up on both long and short trips and being watchful for the actions of other motorists," said Coppage. He also stressed the importance of observing posted speed limits and never driving while impaired by alcohol or drugs.

Coppage reminded teen drivers that underage drinking is a crime, and no level of alcohol is acceptable for drivers under 21. He reminded younger drivers that the penalties for impaired driving are severe and include losing the privilege to drive, possible fines and jail time.

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